

Message Text

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73/63

ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6881

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

DOD

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 7418

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 7)X

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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SUBJECT: ALLEGED CIA INVOLVEMENT IN AUSTRALIAN POLITICS

REF: CANBERRA 7400; CANBERRA 7343

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EDITORIAL APPEARING IN NOV.

5, 1975 FINANCIAL REVIEW.

2. QTE. AN INNOCENT AT HOME

YESTERDAY IN PARLIAMENT THE LEADER OF THE NATIONAL COUNTRY PARTY, MR. ANTHONY, SUGGESTED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, MR. E.G. WHITLAM, SHOULD APOLOGISE TO AN OFFICIAL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR INVOLVING THAT MAN IN A DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY.

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3. QTE. THE MAN, MR. ANTHONY INFORMED PARLIAMENT, WAS A FAMILY FIREND EVEN THOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW HE WAS AN OFFICIAL OF THE CIA.

4. QTE. TO PUT IT BLUNTLY THE MAN WAS A SPY, A SPOOK, A MAN WITH ALLEGIANCE TO A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, WHO BEFRIENDED MR. ANTHONY WHEN HE WAS THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA.

5. QTE. THE DUTY OF THIS MAN, MR. RICHARD LEE STALLINGS, A QUITE SENIOR MAN IN THE CIA, WAS TO REPORT BACK TO HIS SUPERIOS EVERY REMARK HE GLEANED FROM MR. ANTHONY, WHO WAS AT THE TIME THE SECOND MOST SENIOR MAN IN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT.

6. QTE. MR. ANTHONY IS FAST EARNING THE REPUTATION FOR BEING A MAN OF LIMITED PERCEPTION IN POLITICS. HIS LATEST PARLIAMENTARY EXERCISE FURTHER REINFORCES THE IMPRESSION OF HIS GULLIBILITY.

7. QTE. YESTERDAY THIS PAPER POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD FOR SOME MONTHS BEEN INQUIRING INTO THE STALLINGS-ANTHONY CONNECTION. AT THE MOST OBVIOUS LEVEL OF INQUIRY NO EVIDENCE WAS UNCOVERED TO CONNECT THE COUNTRY PARTY WITH CIA FUNDS.

8. QTE. HOWEVER, IT DID DISCOVER, AS MR. ANTHONY POINTED OUT TO PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY, A CLOSE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE CIA OFFICIAL.

9. QTE. MR. ANTHONY SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THE MAN WAS A SENIOR OFFICIAL AT PINE GAP, A US DEFENCE DEPARTMENT INSTALLATION. MR. STALLINGS, IT IS EVIDENT FROM INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUT HERE, WAS EMPLOYED NOT BY THE DEFENCE DEPARTMENT BU BY THE CIA. PINE GAP WAS PROBABLY NO MORE THAN THE CONVENIENT COVER.

10. QTE. MR. STALLINGS WAS THE DALE CARNEGIE OF THE SPY WOLRD, INGRATIATING HIMSELF NOT ONLY INTO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FRIENDSHIP OF MR. ANTHONY AND FAMILY BUT ALSO INTO THE SENIOR ECHELONS OF AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS AND INDEED INTO THE CONFIDENCE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

11. QTE. TO IMAGINE THAT SPYING IN 1975 IS ALL ABOUT UNCOVERING DEFENCE SECRETS IS TOTALLY TO MISUNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC ORDER.

12. QTE. TO LIST THE AREAS WHERE U.S. INTERESTS ARE NOT IDENTICAL WITH THOSE OF AUSTRALIA IS TO GO IN THE FIRST PLACE TO THE CORE OF THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY PARTY.

13. QTE. AUSTRALIA'S POLICIES IN TERMS OF PRODUCTION, OUTPUT AND NATIONAL POLICIES IN RESPECT OF WHEAT, WOOL, LEAD, ZINC, IRON ORE, URANIUM, BAUXITE AND MINERAL SANDS ARE QUITE SIMPLY NOT IDENTICAL WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. IN SOME AREAS THEY ARE INIMICAL.

14. QTE. THE SAME CAN BE SAID OF CERTAIN KEY MANUFACTURING AND IMPORT AREAS.

15. QTE. IT WAS APPARENT, TO LISTEN TO MR. ANTHONY IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY, THAT THE FACT THAT AUSTRALIA HAS A SEPARATE AND IDENTIFIABLE INTEREST FROM THE U.S. HAS NOT YET DAWNED ON HIM.

16. QTE. LET THERE BE NO MISTAKE. MR. STALLINGS PASSED HIMSELF OFF ON THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA AS SOMETHING WHICH HE WAS NOT. AT THE TIME HE WAS A HIGHLY PLACED OFFICIAL OF THE UNITED STATES COVERT INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM.

17. IT IS BEYOND BELIEF THAT THE AUSTRALIAN INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM, WHICH KNEW OF THE MAN'S ACTIVITIES, DID NOT WARN SUCH A SENIOR POLITICIAN AS MR. ANTHONY THAT A SPY WAS CULTIVATING HIS FRIENDSHIP.

18. HOWEVER, THE SITUATION HAVING BEEN EXPOSED, MR. UNCLASSIFIED

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ANTHONY IS COMPOUNDING HIS STUPIDITY BY ASKING THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA TO APOLOGIZE TO A SPY.

END QUOTE
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